

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 17 are pending in this application. The Office Action mailed October 29, 2008 has been reviewed and its contents carefully considered. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Applicants note that the examination is being carried out based on the documents as originally filed. However, with entry into the regional phase, Applicants have filed amendments, and the present application is published based on the amended document. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request a corrected version of the official letter.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

In the Office Action, Claims 1-4 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as being anticipated by Filsfils et al (US Publication 20060193248A1). Applicants submit that Filsfils does not teach or suggest claim 1 of the present invention as amended. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended claim 1 of the present invention discloses a method for fast converging an end-to-end service, comprising setting routing information of at least two tunnels in a double-ascription Provider Edge (PE) of a remote Customer Edge (CE), wherein, an initial node of the tunnels is the double-ascription PE of the remote CE, and a terminal node of the tunnels is the PE which is connected with the remote CE; detecting tunnel states to obtain state information of the at least two tunnels; the double-ascription PE of the remote CE obtaining available routing information from the routing information of the at least two tunnels (limitation 1) according to the tunnel state information and the routing information of the at least two tunnels, and forwarding the service according to the routing

information of the tunnel corresponding to the available routing information (limitation 2).

However, according to the disclosure of Filsfils, if an edge device detects a node or link failure that prevents it from communicating with a neighboring routing domain, the edge device reroutes at least some data packets addressed to that domain to a backup edge device which, in turn, forwards the packets to the neighboring domain (see abstract).

Firstly, the Applicants respectfully submit that Filsfils at least fails to teach limitations 1 and 2 of the amended claim 1. It can be seen that the disclosure of Filsfils provides the backup for the edge device. That is, an available edge device is obtained from the two edge device, and then the packets are forwarded according the routing information of the obtained edge device. Since the edge devices and the tunnels are completely different, the disclosure in Filsfils can not teach or suggest the limitations 1 and 2.

Secondly, though, as the examiner points out, paragraph 54 on page 6 discloses that the result of the table look up operation can be used to determine a particular PE-CE link over which the received packet should be forwarded next, the Applicants respectfully submit that the determined PE-CE link can not teach the routing information of the tunnel corresponding to the available routing information, i.e. the limitation 2.

Specifically, according to paragraphs 25 and 26 on page 3 and FIG 2 in Filsfils, when the source node (S) addressed a packet to a destination node (D) in the customer site 120, the path used for routing the packet is S-CE3-PE3-P1-P2-PE1-CE1-D (path 1). Meanwhile, according to paragraph 43 on page 5 of Filsfils, if PE1 loses communication with its neighboring customer site 120 due to the CE1 node failure or the PE1-CE1 link failure, PE1 will route at least some packets to the backup provider edge device PE2 which is also coupled to the customer site 120. As can be seen that, in

Filsfils, the path used when PE1 fails is S-CE3-PE3-P1-P2-PE1-PE2-CE2-D (path 2).

However, the paths 1 and 2 in Filsfils can not teach the tunnels used according to the amended claim 1.

Filsfils fails to disclose the at least two tunnels, the initial node of which is the double-ascription PE of the remote CE, and the terminal node of which is the PE which is connected with the remote CE, because it is obvious that paths 1 and 2 in Filsfils do not equal to the two tunnels in the present application.

Further, even if the PE3 in Filsfils is regarded as the double-ascription PE, and CE2 is regarded as the remote CE, the paths used in the amended claim 1 and Filsfils are different. According to FIG 2 in Filsfils, when PE3 is regarded as the double-ascription PE, and CE2 is regarded as the remote CE, the two tunnels are PE3-P1-P2-PE1-PE2-CE2 (path 3) and PE3-P3-P4-PE2-CE2 (path 4). Also suppose that PE1 fails, and then the obtained available routing information corresponds to path 4. That is, the path used before PE1 fails is PE3-P1-P2-PE1-PE2-CE2 (path 3), and the path used when PE1 fails is PE3-P3-P4-PE2-CE2 (path 4). Therefore, the disclosure of Filsfils cannot disclose this feature of amended claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, Filsfils cannot teach or suggest the limitations in amended claim 1 and therefore, do not make obvious the pending claims.

For at least the above noted reasons, Filsfils at least fails to show the recited features of independent claim 1, and thus does not support a §102(e) rejection of claim 1, or dependent claims 4 to 17. Further, amended independent claim 11 provides a PE equipment including technical features corresponding to the limitations 1 and 2 of amended claim 1, thus for at least the above reasons, Filsfils can not teach or suggest the limitation in the independent claims 11, and thus do not support

a §102(e) rejection of claim 11. Hence the Applicants respectfully request that the examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection based on Filsfils.

CONCLUSION

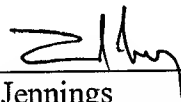
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the application are believed in order and such action is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed in an effort to resolve any matter still outstanding before issuing another action.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the one-month extension fee to Deposit Account 50-2036 and to charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2036 with reference to Attorney Docket No. 56815.2900.

Respectfully submitted,

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